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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
TROOP B, 2D SQUADRON 17TH CAVALRY
101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96383

AVDG-SQ-B

25 January 1970

SUBJECT: Operations Report Lessons Learned of Troop B, 2d Squadron, 17th Cavalry, Period Ending 31 January 1970

Commanding Officer
2d Squadron, 17th Cavalry
101st Airborne Division
ATTN: S-1
APO SF 96383

1. Section I - Operations

On 1 November ^{8 TRP WAS} ~~we were~~ engaged in operation Republic Squares near Hue City, Thua Thien Province, RVN. During this period ^{8 TRP WAS} ~~we were~~ working under the operational control of the 2d Squadron, 17th Cavalry and supporting the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. ^{THE TROOPS} ~~Our~~ primary mission was visual reconnaissance in the 1st Brigade area of operation and in the 101st Abn Div recon zones.

Since September brings with it the beginning of the monsoon season, weather began to play a large part in the missions of the Air Cavalry. Monsoon weather began to hinder and sometimes eliminate missions in the mountainous regions and in the deep recon zones. Consequently nearly all units pulled out of the southern part of the AO, the A Shau Valley, and the Rong Rong Valley.

The Cavalry was called upon to fill the void left when these units pulled out. Extensive visual reconnaissance missions were run in the deep recon zones when the weather was good. During bad weather, we provided visual reconnaissance and security missions for friendly units in the low lying coastal regions.

Along with the weather came modifications in the employment of the Air Cav Troops. Pink Teams (1 Cobra and 1 LOH) gave way to Cav Teams (2 Cobras and 2 LOH's and 1 C&C) for mutual support. When weather became too marginal for Cobra gunships, White Teams (2 LOH's) took up the missions. In addition, we undertook Sniffer missions, Ranger insertions and extractions and Reaction force.

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